



Southeast News

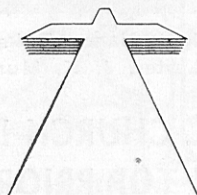
PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOLUME 19

APRIL 1971

NUMBER 6



EASTER DAY 1971

Easter is the greatest day of the Christian year! It celebrates the faith that the most renowned man that ever lived, Jesus Christ, demonstrated for all time to come His supremacy over all the powers of the world. Being the very Son of God, Jesus laid down His powers of divinity for awhile, in order that He might reach sinful man and provide for sinners a way of salvation.

After accomplishing His mission and undergoing the ultimate in torment of the flesh — even the cruelty of violent death, He assumed again His divine prerogatives and burst the most powerful ties that had bound Him as an earthly creature. Therefore, the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the tomb became the superlative event in the world's history. Jesus not only became alive forevermore, but also extended His immortality to all those who would accept Him as the Lord and Master of their lives.

No wonder churches are crowded at Easter! It is grand and wonderful that people can express their devotion to Him in a manner demonstrating that they DO BELIEVE. But many would receive more help and His cause would be further expanded if a greater number of His followers would be more faithful in their worship and deeper in their devotion to their everlasting Lord.

Although, most likely, there won't be any dark alleys in heaven, if there are any preferences in the golden streets and the gorgeous mansions, such will surely go to those souls who have borne the heat and burden of the many days of duty. Faithfulness has always had its rewards and heaven surely will be no exception.

At least your devotion can lead you to make the streets of this world golden to other pilgrims as you glorify the Christ you adore with your daily living.

Thank God for the resurrection of Jesus! Glorious Easter Forever!

— Rev. Floyd M. Price, Garden City, Ala.

DR. A. WILSON CHEEK DIES

Dr. A. Wilson Cheek, Regional Executive Director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, died on March 6, in Atlanta.

Dr. Cheek had served in this position since 1968. His career included service as associate general secretary of the Religious Education Association, associate general secretary of the World Council of Christian Education, several positions with the National Council of the Churches of Christ

in the U.S.A., director of youth work for the Board of Christian Education of the Evangelical and Reformed Church; and pastor of churches in Conover and Rockford, North Carolina.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, March 9, 1971, at First Congregational Church, Atlanta, with Rev. Homer C. McEwen, Rev. Donald S. Daughtrey, and Rev. Andrew Young officiating.



Lanett Church To Dedicate Building On Easter Sunday

Special services of Dedication and Open House will be held at Lanett Congregational Christian Church (United Church of Christ) on Easter Sunday, April 11.

The 11 A. M. Worship Service will be a time of personal dedication to God in thanksgiving for His guidance and help following the fire, May 19, 1969, which destroyed the structure.

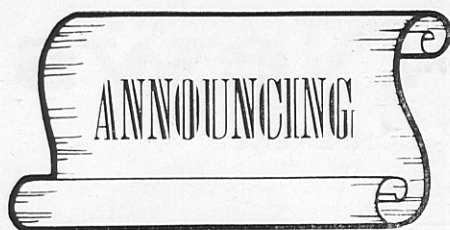
At 3 P. M. a Service of Dedication of the building will feature the Rev. Dr. William J. Andes, Conference Minister of the Southeast Conference, bringing the address. Open House will be held from 4 to 6 P. M.

The public is cordially invited to attend. Guests are requested to enter the front door, where they will be greeted by the Deacons. Visitors are requested to register, after which they will be taken on a tour of the building. Miss Pacita Harry, church organist, will provide music for both the 3 P. M. service and the Open House. The tour will end in the Fellowship Hall where refreshments will be served by the Women's Fellowship.

On the night of May 19, 1969, fire of undetermined origin destroyed the 16-year-old church building. Starting in the attic section of one wing, it spread rapidly over the entire attic. By the time the fire was extinguished, only the office and pastor's study had not been damaged by fire or water. A conservative estimate of the damage was \$250,000. Services were held in the Lanett Elementary School for more than a year.

Four months after the fire, reconstruction

(Cont. on Page 5)



... a column of reminders to help you with your planning.

APRIL 3 — 10 A. M., S. Alabama-N.W. Florida Association representatives meet at First Church, Andalusia.

APRIL 4 — *Palm Sunday*, beginning of Holy Week.

APRIL 8 — *Maundy Thursday*, marking the Last Supper of Jesus with His disciples before the Crucifixion.

APRIL 9 — *Good Friday*, marking the Crucifixion Day.

APRIL 11 — *Easter Day*.

APRIL 16-18, East Alabama Youth, Roosevelt State Park, Pine Mt., Ga.

APRIL 19-25, Visitation Evangelism in Columbus-Phenix City.

APRIL 2, 4 and 25, SEC Youth Officers, Chattanooga, Tenn.

APRIL 25, Consultation on Church Union Sunday.

MAY 5 — May Fellowship Day.

MAY 10, 11, and 12 — Ministers' Convocation, Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Ga.

JUNE 5 and 6 — Alabama Women's Fellowship, Southern Union State Junior College, Wadley, Ala.

JUNE 12 and 13 — Southeast Conference Annual Meeting, Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.

JUNE 20-25 — Leadership School of Mid-South, Maryville, Tenn.

JUNE 25-29 — 8th General Synod, U. C. C., Grand Rapids, Mich.

JULY 25-31 — Leadership School, Boggs Academy, Keysville, Ga.

AUGUST 8-14 — Junior and Junior High Camp, Roosevelt State Park, Pine Mountain, Ga.

Brother Andrew, a young Dutchman whose call has been to smuggle Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, prays: "Lord, in my luggage I have Scriptures that I want to take to your children across this border. When you were on earth, you made blind eyes see. Now, I pray, make seeing eyes blind. Do not let the guards see those things you do not want them to see."

—United Church Herald

Eighth General Synod To Meet

The Eighth General Synod of the United Church of Christ will meet in Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 25-29, 1971.

Some 1500 people, including 744 voting delegates, visitors, missionaries and church leaders from around the world are expected to attend the five-day meeting of the denomination's policy and budget-making body.

Unlike past Synod meetings which dealt primarily with review and planning of the programs for the national agencies of the denomination, the Eighth General Synod will focus its attention on four major issues facing churches in America today:

- the faith crisis: recovering and renewing a living experience of God;
- seeking liberation, justice, and empowerment for the racially oppressed;
- enabling industrial-technological power to serve Christian and humane ends and to insure peace;
- strengthening the local churches in life and mission.

Priorities were arrived at through a series of regional meetings to which hundreds of church members, pastors and regional and national staff workers came to discuss the issues that the church needs to be facing.

Another innovation in the General Synod program will give delegates an opportunity to thrash out the priority issues in group discussions. After presentation of each of the four issues to a plenary session, the delegates will meet in groups of 20 to discuss possible actions, then reconvene to take action. Delegates are also expected to consider statements on controversial issues such as abortion, the role of women, and American investments in Africa.

Also on the agenda will be election of officers and members of boards and agencies of the church. Up for re-election is the national secretary, the Rev. Dr. Joseph H. Evans, New York City, the first black minister to hold one of the top administrative posts in the denomination. A new moderator and assistant moderators will be elected. The present moderator, Richard C. Pfeiffer, Tiffin, Ohio, will preside over the Grand Rapids sessions.

Extend Your Horizons
Read Your
Church Magazines



Left to right: Nancy Duke, Mrs. F. C. Lester, J. K. Murphy

LOCAL CHURCH IS GIVEN TOP PRIORITY

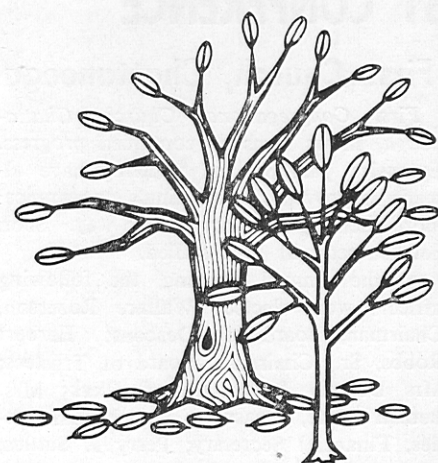
At the March 20 meeting in Central Church, Atlanta, the Consultation sponsored jointly by the Lay Life and Work and Christian Education Commissions adopted as top priority, "Strengthening the Local Church."

Utilizing the Lay Life and Work Strategy Developer, the participants under the leadership of Mrs. F. C. Lester of High Point, North Carolina, reviewed "Situations and Needs through evaluating the Churchmanship Institutes, the Youth Conference, and other events. After agreeing that the chief goal this year should be 'assisting local churches to discover their needs and meet them,' they moved through stages of setting objectives and discovering resources, to considering alternate strategies.

Two methods of taking action evolved: 1. developing a resources inventory (particularly of "human" resources), and 2. scheduling leadership skills events. These two steps are being recommended to Association committees for "follow through", with the understanding that the Conference staff and Commissions stand ready to assist the Associations with their tasks. East Alabama has scheduled its next Christian Education meeting for April 17 at Roosevelt State Park; the Georgia-South Carolina Committee will meet in Savannah either May 1 or 8.

FOR T. V. VIEWING

"Religion in America Today," half-hour television programs will be seen this spring on Sundays through May 16 on ABC network. Check local stations for time. The National Council of Churches Broadcasting and Film Commission calls the series "the most ambitious sustained T.V. study of the contemporary religious spirit at the grass roots."



YOUTH MINISTRY

Camp Sumatanga Host To Southeast Youth Conference

More than 160 youth and adults participated in the weekend Conference of SOUTHEAST YOUTH, held at Camp Sumatanga, near Gallant, Alabama.

The largest delegation was 26 persons from Lowell Church, Roanoke, Alabama. Along with the other adults, Rev. Ralph Worley, pastor, attended. Those attending from the greatest distance were four young men from McIntosh, Georgia, who traveled both ways by bus.

Most of the delegates drove in thru the fog on Friday night. Although no formal program was planned until Saturday morning, plenty of snack food was made available by Pilgrim Church, Birmingham, many kinds of indoor games and art possibilities were provided, and there was lots of music. At a brief assembly, the Camp Director, Mr. Bert Goodwin, welcomed the campers and explained the "ground rules" of Sumatanga.

Central Atlanta youth opened the Saturday morning session with a worship experience entitled "Paper Doll People." Mike Granish, President, welcomed the crowd, made necessary announcements, and then turned matters over temporarily to Miss Pitcock, who led the Community Exercises. These dramatized the different worlds of youth and adults, and problems of coming together.

Eleven "Communication Groups" followed under the leadership of the following: Stuart Aiken, Kevin Cox, Don Orander, Mary Jean Orander, Jaci Chetelat, Maria Brown, Teresa Edwards, Paula Carruth-

ers, Betty Johnson, Ken Iha, and Carmen Bassler. These groups further worked through the estrangements between youth and adults, and tried to face them honestly.

Other techniques included "Sentence Completions", "Six Quick Questions", and "Values A and B". Some of the experiences were difficult, calling for some real self-searching.

Late in the afternoon some hearty people climbed the mountain by foot, while others rode. Mike Granish took the whole thing so seriously that he went home ill. Maria Brown took along a kite, but never found time to fly it.

After some early technical difficulties, the film SYZGY was shown, in which people tried to work out problems of reconciliation.

A real display of talent and hard work was evidenced by the singers and instrumentalists from Lowell Church under the direction of Ronald Hyche. In their colorful costumes they displayed real enthusiasm as they sang most of "New Life", a rare combination of traditional theology and contemporary music. They had really worked to attend the Conference, having held a food sale and devised other means to raise the \$10 per person which the Sumatanga experience cost.

Following breakfast on Sunday morning, Miss Pitcock led the total group briefly through a planning process, using the Strategy Developer prepared by the U.C.S. Council for Lay Life and Work. Then we moved into state groups (which subdivided) to make plans for the next year's work.

Officers were also elected: President, Teresa Edwards, Howard Church, Nashville. Other officers: Jaci Chetelat, Pilgrim Church, Birmingham; Peter Andreae, Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga; Risa Tucker, Crossville; Richard Krech, First Church, Nashville; Mary Helen Thorn, Garden City; Princess Calhoun, Talladega; Edith Biggers, First Church, Atlanta.

Officers will be meeting toward the end of April in Chattanooga, hoping to begin implementing some of the plans suggested at the Sumatanga Conference.

The General Synod, July 2, 1969, took the following action: "Because of our continuing concern, be it resolved that the Seventh General Synod of the United Church of Christ urge the President of the United States to declare an early cease-fire in Vietnam and to accelerate withdrawal of United States troops from Vietnam."

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
475 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y. 10027

MAY FELLOWSHIP DAY 1971



Church Women United To Focus On Family

"The Family in a New Era" is to be explored by Church Women United in the 1971 May Fellowship Day.

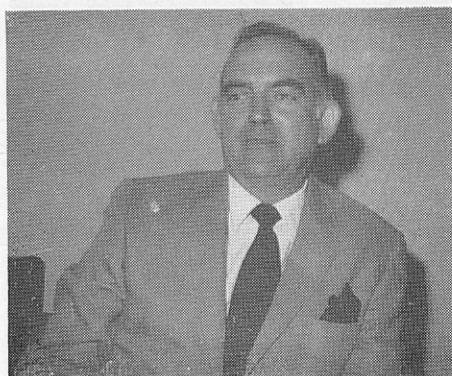
In at least 2,300 communities, Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox women will celebrate May Fellowship Day with services, luncheons and discussion groups.

May Fellowship Day, one of three celebrations sponsored annually by Church Women United, falls on May 7. World Day of Prayer was held on March 5, and World Community Day will be celebrated on November 5.

Questions to be discussed on Fellowship Day are: "Is a 'family' — mother, father and children — the so-called 'nuclear family'?" What about a 'family' made up of individuals who may not all be related by ties of blood or marriage? What is the purpose of a family?"

"Anyone can see that the questions are endless," said Mrs. Ruth Weber, editor of *The Church Woman*, the official magazine of Church Women United. "The answers are sometimes vociferous and sometimes hard to discern. But this is exactly the point of the whole May Fellowship Day observance. If nothing else, it is a celebration of our God-given right to choose."

NEWS OF CHURCHES OF THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE



Rev. Henry Tuttle Assumes Duties At Huntsville

The Rev. Henry W. Tuttle, of Miami, Fla., recently assumed duties as pastor of the *United Church of Huntsville*.

He was graduated from the public schools of Lockport, New York; served two-and-a-half years in the U. S. Navy Reserve during World War Two; attended Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa, and earned his B.A. degree from Emory University, Atlanta.

He received his graduate degree in divinity from the Hartford Theological Seminary, Hartford, Conn., and was ordained to the Christian ministry while serving as pastor of the Congregational Church of Marlborough, Conn., in 1954.

He was founding Pastor of the Pilgrim Congregational Church of St. Petersburg, Fla., which he served from 1955 to 1968. For the past two and a half years he has served as co-pastor of the Plymouth Congregational Church of Coconut Grove, Miami.

The Rev. Mr. Tuttle has served on many boards and committees of the Florida Conference of the United Church of Christ, including a three-year term as its vice-

president and member of the board of directors. He has just completed a four-year term as member of the General Synod of the United Church of Christ.

The Rev. Mr. Tuttle is married to the former Jean Bosman of Jacksonville, Fla., a graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She received her preparatory college courses at Wesleyan College, Macon, Ga.

The Tuttles are the parents of four children. William is a junior at the University of South Florida at Tampa. Diane will remain in Miami until the completion of her senior year in high school this spring. Debra and Cheryl, both in high school, are residing in Huntsville.



ROCK STAND

The people at Rock Stand near Roanoke, Alabama, are proud of their church. For several years they have talked of the need for additional Sunday School classrooms; in June 1967 a building fund was set up. The new Christian Education Complex was completed in May 1970.

In the addition are four classrooms, two bathrooms and a substantial addition to the size of the basement, all totaling twenty-four hundred square feet of new floor space.

The total cost of the new addition was \$11,379, of which \$7,079 has been paid and the balance financed through a local bank. There is now a balance of over \$3,000.00 in the building fund treasury to be used to further develop the basement. Funds for the addition were raised by pledges, donations and special offerings on the first Sunday of every month. Several individuals donated labor and equipment. The ladies missionary society raised money to finance the drilling of a well by having bake sales and a church bazaar. People of neighboring White's Chapel Methodist Church also contributed to the fund.

Rock Stand has Sunday School every Sunday morning at 10:00 A. M. and preaching service on the second and fourth Sunday with the Rev. G. G. Norris as pastor.

First Church, Chattanooga

First Congregational Church, Chattanooga, shows signs of continued progress. Extensive painting and paneling have already improved the building's appearance; more such work is now under way. Soon new carpet will be installed.

At the Annual Meeting, the following officers were elected: Wallace Roberson, Chairman, Board of Deacons; Herbert Robbs, Sr., Chairman, Board of Trustees; Mrs. Dorothy Robbs, Church Clerk; Mrs. Beulah White, Treasurer; Mrs. Marian Settles, Financial Secretary; Perry J. Suttles, Church School Superintendent; Mrs. Bessie Roberson, Chorister; Mr. Roy Brooks, Organist; Mrs. Louise Suttles, Birthday Bank Treasurer; Mrs. Agnes Roberts, Chairman, Evangelism and Christian Social Action; Mrs. Corine Owens, Chairman, Our Christian World Mission; Mrs. Thelma Roberson, Youth Advisor.

Officers are developing a Constitution and By-Laws, and at least once a month a "Moment of Concern" for missions is presented in the morning worship service. An adult choir sings regularly, and a youth choir occasionally. On Brotherhood Sunday, Drew Perkins of Pilgrim Church was guest speaker.

Mindful of problems of fellowship because the membership is scattered occasionally members eat together at the church. On March 24, a covered dish supper preceded an officers' meeting.

Thoughts For Rev. and Mrs. Otto Culpepper

As I looked at the Brochure cover of your 50th Anniversary:

THESE HANDS

God joined these hands together 50 years ago
and today their love still stands strong
for all the world to know.

These hands worked together as the years slipped on and on.
These hands knew the joys of children's laughter in their home.

Today these hands are more blessed than ever
as through this life they trod,
For you see, today these hands are working together to carry the message of God.

By—Geraldene McInnis
August 8, 1970

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LANETT CHURCH . . .

(Cont. from Page 1)

tion was begun by Batson-Cook Company, with Philip Burns of Montgomery as the architect. By the following June, the building had been completed with the exception of the pews. Services were held in the Fellowship Hall from June until Christmas Sunday 1970. After installation of the pews, the first service was held in the rebuilt sanctuary. At this service the Chancel Choir presented a Christmas cantata.

The building, including contents, was completed at a cost of \$190,215, of which only \$7,000 is still owed. Having been rebuilt almost identical to the former structure, the new edifice has been completely re-wired, re-plastered, and painted inside and out. A new heating and air conditioning system has been installed. All rooms and halls on the main floor, except for the rest rooms, are carpeted. The entire basement floor is covered with vinyl tile. The beautiful English hand-blown antique stained glass Memorial windows were replaced exactly as they had been before the fire. The original 5-foot stainless-steel cross was replaced on the steeple, and the same wooden cross which had been made from timber taken from the original structure built in 1898, was repaired and placed on the front of the church. The bell which has hung in the steeples of the buildings since 1898, was returned to its place.

In the Sanctuary and Chapel the original Chancel furniture was refinished. Identical pews were purchased. A new Allen organ was installed in the Sanctuary, and a new Steinway piano was purchased by the Women's Fellowship. The Sanctuary and Chapel both have gold color wall-to-wall carpet. More lighting for the Sanctuary and Narthex consists of nine colonial chandeliers, and spotlights are located at strategic places. The steeple is lighted by friends of the late Miss Jeanette Spear as a memorial to her.

Plans are being made to provide on the second floor of the Educational Building a Dollar Memorial Library in memory of Rev. Carl Dollar and Dr. Jesse Dollar. The libraries of both ministers have already been received and will be made available to ministers in the area when the library is completed.

Members of the Building Committee were Terrell Bishop, Chairman; Lawrence Moncus; Reid Kent; and Herbert Alexander.

Members of Lanett Church gratefully acknowledge the contributions of members and friends of the church, of sister churches, of churches of other denominations, and of the industrial, banking, and busi-



OPRO

OVERSEAS PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT OFFICE

Suite 417 • 475 Riverside Drive, New York, New York 10027 • (212) 870-3123

Overseas Personnel Are Needed

A person with a B.D., training in pastoral counseling, and extensive experience in University Ministries, is needed to serve as *Student Counselor* in the New Orientation and English Language Institute which is being sponsored by the Youth Palace of the Iranian government. He will work with Iranian students preparing to come to the United States for advanced studies. He will attempt to prepare these students for the inevitable cultural shock as they move into the American university scene. Interested persons should contact the Overseas Personnel Recruitment Office, Dept. D, Suite 432, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, N. Y. 10027.

A position for a *builder* is available in Western Tanzania. It is supervisory in nature, working with building projects—hospitals, churches, pastor's houses, etc. Primary responsibility includes planning the projects and supervision of workers and contractors. A secondary responsibility is the area of training local personnel to assume a larger role in the construction. Experienced builders should contact the Overseas Personnel Recruitment Office, Dept. D, Suite 432, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, N. Y. 10027.

ness establishments of The Valley whose gifts of money, materials, labor, and prayer have made possible the re-erection of this house of worship. Churches from as far away as Birmingham sent contributions. A Lanett Negro congregation sent \$50.00.

Langdale Progress Report

Langdale Church reports that during "the snatches of good weather . . . the work on the building annex has gotten under way. Thanks are in order to many for the help . . . already received. Another day or two of good weather will see the finish of the grading and the laying out of the foundations."

Furthermore, giving by the Langdale people "to all purposes is increased for 1971." Writes the pastor: "The report for the first nine weeks of 1971 shows that you are not only supporting the building fund but are exercising a greater stewardship than ever before in all areas. In January you gave \$1991. In February you gave \$2128 in only a four-week period. The average weekly income for 1971 is \$457 versus \$344 for the same period last year . . . Such giving projected for the year would mean an increase in giving of over \$5,000. The Lord is blessing, so give Him the glory!"

We Share Soul Listen Christian

I was hungry
and you formed a humanities club and
discussed my hunger.
Thank you.

I was imprisoned
and you crept off quietly
to your chapel in the cellar
and prayed for my release.

I was naked, and in your mind
you debated the morality
of my appearance.

I was sick and you knelt and thanked
God for your health.

I was homeless and you preached to me
of the spiritual shelter of the love
of God.

I was lonely
and you left me alone
to pray for me.

You seem so holy;
so close to God.
But I'm still very hungry, and lonely,
and cold. . . .

By Bob Rowland—*Witness Magazine*.

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Ministers' Convocation Announces Leadership Of Dr. Chester L. Marcus

Guest leader for the SEC Ministers' Convocation at Callaway Gardens May 10-12, 1971 will be the Rev. Dr. Chester L. Marcus of New York, Secretary for Africa of the United Church Board for World Ministries.

Dr. Marcus directs the denomination's medical, educational, urban, agricultural, social and evangelistic programs in Angola, Rhodesia, South Africa, Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi, Ghana and Togo. Prior to assuming his present position, Dr. Marcus served for five years as co-secretary for Racial and Cultural Relations of the denomination's Council for Christian Social Action. From 1954 to 1957 he was secretary for Racial and Cultural Relations of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. In 1970 Dr. Marcus was appointed by the U. S. State Department to serve as a member of its Advisory Board on Africa.

He is a member of the World Council on Christian Education, the Africa Committee of the National Council of Churches, the Scholarship Selection Committee of the Theological Education Fund, the National Conference of Negro Churchmen, and the United Church's Committee for Racial Justice and International Relations Committee.

Born in Swiftown, Mississippi, Dr. Marcus was named outstanding alumnus of

the year in 1962 by Alcorn A and M College, Lorman, Mississippi. He received a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Lincoln University Theological Seminary, Pennsylvania, in 1943. He has also done graduate work at Western Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, Pa. For his work in promoting racial understanding, Dr. Marcus was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree by the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1968.

Ordained in 1943 in the United Presbyterian Church U.S.A., Dr. Marcus was minister of Washington Street Presbyterian Church, Reading, Pa., from 1943 to 1954. The Reading Fellowship House honored him in 1954 with an award for his outstanding contribution to racial and cultural understanding in the community during his years there.

Dr. Marcus has served as leader at the annual Race Relations Institute at Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., and as Dean of the annual racial and cultural institute at McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago. He is also the author of a widely used book, *The Bible and Race*.

A widower, Dr. Marcus has a son, Chester Lee, Jr.

Backslider's Calendar

JANUARY: I hereby resolve to start to church this year. But, I'll wait till February. Got to get over the holidays.

FEBRUARY: Weather is terrible. I'll wait until it warms up a little bit. My blood is too thin this time of year.

MARCH: Lots of sickness. Got to keep away from those bugs.

APRIL: Easter . . . big crowds . . . they won't miss me.

MAY: I've been holed up all winter. Now that the weather is nice it's time to be outdoors.

JUNE: I'll wait until the baby gets older. How on earth do some bring kids at two weeks?

JULY: Boy! The heat is terrific!! The air conditioning may give me the chills.

AUGUST: Preacher's on vacation. I doubt if he knows that I'm not there.

SEPTEMBER: School's started!

OCTOBER: Leaves are beautiful. I can worship just as well outside as in.

NOVEMBER: Getting colder. I cannot stand warm church buildings.

DECEMBER: This month belongs to the kids. I'll be sure and start next month!!!!!!



A Missionary Speaks Out

Claude Peters, United Church Board for World Ministries missionary at Mt. Silinda, Rhodesia, recently wrote: "Contributions to Our Christian World Mission have fallen off so badly in our churches that the United Church Board for World Ministries has had to cut its budget 10% all over the world. We are told that part of the reason for this decline is that a large number of lay people are refusing to contribute to O.C.W.M. as a protest against the position which the denomination has taken on some social issues. This is very disturbing. Not the fact that people disagree on matters of great social import; this is to be expected. What is disturbing is that church people are registering their protest in this particular manner.

"There must be a better way. For only the tiniest percentage of the O.C.W.M. dollar goes to programs which could be labeled controversial. Yet when O.C.W.M. giving declines, work is cut back all over the world. And so this protest begins to result in people dying because adequate medical care was not available; kids being turned away from school because the budget had to be slashed; and the poorest churches withering because there is no more money for pastoral subsidy. People die; futures are shattered; spirits are left untouched. We live with the people who are paying this price. And when you begin counting the cost of a protest in terms of human lives — then that is a mighty expensive protest. There must be a better way. And it is imperative that Christians find it."